

PROPOSAL – South Sound Prairies

343 Conservation Easement Acres/148 Fee Title Acres

Conservation Values

- Critical habitat for Mazama pocket gopher
- Prairie and oaks, fresh water wetlands and riparian habitats
- Taylor's checkerspot and Mardon skipper butterfly species

Recreation Values

- Wildlife viewing
- Low impact trail system



South Sound Prairies

Agency	Department of Fish and Wildlife
Estimated Acres	343 acres conservation easements, 148 fee title acres
Existing Uses	Working farmland containing prairie soils, high quality South Puget Sound prairie habitat
Threats	Development
Intended Uses	Prairie conservation, listed species recovery and extension of WDFW Area
Project Description	The South Sound Prairies acquisition proposal protects critical habitat for the state and federally listed Mazama pocket gopher. The five parcels identified are part of the Mazama Pocket Gopher Reserve System, aimed at protecting habitat for the species. Other listed prairie species present include: Taylor's checkerspot butterfly, Mardon skipper butterfly, Puget blue butterfly, white-top aster and valley silverspot. This acquisition would support local populations of gopher and butterflies and provide corridors which connect other core properties.
Partners/Supporters	U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Department of Defense, Center for Natural Lands Management, Capital Land Trust, Nisqually Land Trust, Thurston County



